

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inte — I Application No
PC 1 / GB 2004 / 003242

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C02F1/44

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 C02F B01D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 281 430 A (HERRON JOHN R ET AL) 25 January 1994 (1994-01-25) column 10, line 8 - line 44; figure 3 -----	1-5, 7-13, 17, 21, 22
X	US 3 532 621 A (HOUGH WILLIAM THOMAS) 6 October 1970 (1970-10-06) column 3, line 57 - line 59; figure 1 column 6, line 46 - line 52 column 4, line 35 - line 44 ----- -/-	1-4, 7-9, 11-13, 15-17, 21, 22

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 October 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

26/10/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/JP2004/003242

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 97/18166 A (OSMOTEK INC) 22 May 1997 (1997-05-22) page 7, line 17 - line 22 page 7, line 29 - page 9, line 16; figures 1,3,6,12,14 -----	1-4, 7-17,19, 21,22
X	US 4 781 837 A (LEFEBVRE MICHEL S M) 1 November 1988 (1988-11-01) the whole document -----	1-18,21, 22
X	WO 99/39799 A (MCGINNIS ROBERT L) 12 August 1999 (1999-08-12) page 10, line 23 - page 11, line 2 page 19, line 3 - line 6 -----	1-5, 7-19,21, 22